

and was invited to the bill signing by President Lyndon Johnson. George insisted on the inclusion of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail into the National Trails Act as a sister trail to the Appalachian Trail in the east.

George Cardinet initiated the establishment of the Juan Bautista De Anza National Historic Trail which was secured by law in 1990. He worked on the management plan and was Chairman of the Board of Amigos De Anza support group for the trail. He was honored at the American Trails Conference in November, 1998, by John Horsly, Deputy Director of the Department of Transportation, for his initiative in organizing an international relay on horseback to highlight the De Anza Trail. Later under George's leadership, the De Anza Trail was designated a Millennium Trail and he was again invited to the White House. In appreciation of his efforts, First Lady Hillary Clinton presented him with a certificate that stated, in part, "Cardinet's leadership will play an important role in achieving the goal of a nationwide network of trails that preserve open spaces, interpret history and culture, and promote alternative transportation routes as well as recreation and tourism."

George Cardinet worked with the East Bay Regional Park District to annex portions of Contra Costa County with the park district to establish trail links between East Bay Regional Parks and Mt. Diablo State Park. For his long-standing and sustained advocacy of trails, George has become known as the Father of California Trails by the California State Horsemen's Association, and the Grandfather of the Juan Bautista de Anza Historic Trail as well as the Grandfather of National Trails by the National Park Service.

Mr. Cardinet is survived by a brother, Walter M. Cardinet of Auburn, a son, Dr. George H. Cardinet III and daughter-in-law, Claudia Cardinet of Winters; and daughters Maureen Casteel and Michele Tomasulo and sons-in-law, Gary Casteel and Anthony Tomasulo, all of Concord.

Madam Speaker, because of George Cardinet's countless contributions as an open space and trail advocate, it is appropriate for us to honor him today.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF JALESSA CLEMENTS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 29, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, Ms. Jaleesa Clements, a 16-year-old constituent of mine from Tuskegee, Alabama, tragically passed away recently.

According to those who knew her, Jaleesa was a highly intelligent young woman with a bright future. At school, she was recognized for her accomplishments as Miss Tuskegee Institute Middle School. Jaleesa had many talents, and also dedicated her time to serving in the Booker T. Washington High School Marching Aristocrats, where she served as the Majorette Captain. She was also a young woman with a strong faith, and contributed to her community by being an active member of St. James AME Church in Tuskegee, Alabama.

It is a tragedy indeed that a young person filled with such promise was taken from us at

such an early age. She will be missed dearly. On this mournful occasion, I ask that we all remember Jaleesa, and pray for her loved ones, her family, and her community as they grieve for her passing.

RECOGNIZING HJALMA E. JOHNSON OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 29, 2007

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Hjalma E. Johnson, the recipient of the 4TH Annual Lincoln Heritage Award presented by the East Pasco Political Club. This prestigious award was established to recognize an outstanding community member for his or her commitment to the principles practiced and espoused by Abraham Lincoln, as well as for their humanitarian services to the community and to Pasco County.

An unassuming country boy whose reputation precedes him in the global marketplace, Mr. Johnson is President of Investment Advisors, Inc., and Triple J. Ranch, Inc. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of Hyde Park Capital's Advisory Board, Moore, Clayton LLC, a London based merchant bank and Crews Banking Corp., Wauchula, FL. He is also a past President of the Florida Bankers Association and the American Bankers Association.

Mr. Johnson graduated from the University of Florida with a Bachelor's in Industrial Engineering with High Honors in 1958. A U.S. Army veteran, Mr. Johnson served as a Counter-Intelligence Officer at the U.S. Army's European Headquarters in Heidelberg, Germany. He received a Juris Doctorate from Birmingham School of Law in 1965, is a member of the Alabama Bar, and is admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court. He is a 1968 graduate of the Stonier Graduate School of Banking, Rutgers University. In addition, he served on the University of Florida's Warrington College of Business Advisory Council and is the immediate past President of the University of Florida Gator Boosters.

A former Chairman of the Trustees of Saint Leo University, St. Leo, FL, Mr. Johnson served on the Salvation Army Service Committee, was inducted into the Tampa Bay Business Hall of Fame, and was a board member of the Fannie Mae National Advisory Council.

Mr. Johnson recently celebrated his fiftieth wedding anniversary with his high school sweetheart, Laura. Their son, Len, is a practicing attorney in Dade City, FL, where he resides with his wife, Nancy. Mr. Johnson's grandson, Brock, is a senior at the University of Florida, and his granddaughter, Paige, is a freshman at the University of Alabama.

Madam Speaker, Hjalma Johnson is well known for his compassion for others and for his commitment and passion to his community and profession. I am proud to honor him as an exemplary executive, husband, father and grandfather in Florida's 5th Congressional District, and as the 2007 recipient of the Lincoln Heritage Award from the East Pasco Political Club.

HONORING ROGER CARTER, NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE RURITAN CLUB

HON. DAVID DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 29, 2007

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Roger Carter, a resident of the First Congressional District of Tennessee, who has recently been elected one of 7 National Directors for the Ruritan Club.

Roger Carter led the ticket in votes by garnering 503 of 666 ballots issued at the 76th Annual Ruritan National Convention held in Louisville, Kentucky.

Roger Carter is a member of the Ottway Ruritan Club where he has served as President, Vice President, Board of Directors and all Service Committees. The awards he has received: Club Ruritan of the Year, Outstanding President's Award, National President's Golden Key Award, and National President's VIP Award. He also has received the Tom Downing Fellow the highest award that a member can receive.

Roger Carter has served as President and Vice President of the Greene County Council of Ruritans.

Roger Carter is a resident of Afton, Tennessee, where he and Kimberly, his wife reside.

Roger Carter is a Transportation Technician 1 Roadway Inspector for the Tennessee Department of Transportation.

Roger also is a member of: Greeneville Optimist Club, United Volunteer Fire Department, Greeneville Moose Lodge #692, Greene County Agriculture Advisory Committee and Union Freewill Baptist Church.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my fellow members to join me in honoring Roger Carter, a true servant of community, whose commitment and unwavering determination continue to make a lasting impact all throughout East Tennessee.

RETIREMENT OF MR. RICHARD J. CONNELLY OF THE DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 29, 2007

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Mr. Richard J. Connelly. Having served his country for more than 38 years, he retired from the Federal Government on January 3, 2007. His record of achievement during this period reflects great credit upon himself and upon the organizations with which he has served.

Mr. Connelly is a member of the Senior Executive Service and has received numerous awards over his career including a 2003 Presidential Rank Award of Meritorious Executive. Beginning his Federal career as an Army Signal Officer in 1968, Mr. Connelly joined the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) in 1972 as a management intern in the budget office. In 1986, he was appointed to the Senior Executive Service and was named the chief of the